What is claimed is:

1. A friction resistant blade comprising a blade-shaped substrate base with an edge and a protective layer applied to said blade-shaped substrate.

2. The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the protective layer is applied to at least the edge of the blade-shaped substrate.

3. The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the protective layer comprises chromium.

4. The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the protective layer is electroplated hard chrome.

5. The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the blade-shaped substrate base comprises carbon strip steel, stainless steel, stainless alloy, bronze or monel.

6. The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the edge is beveled.

7. The friction resistant blade of claim 1 wherein the edge is square.

8. A method of producing a friction resistant blade comprising applying a protective layer to a blade-shaped substrate base, said layer being applied to areas of the blade-shaped substrate which contact coatings used in papermaking, board coating, paper machine maintenance and printing applications.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the protective layer comprises chromium.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the chromium is applied via electroplating.